

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-5, 7 and 8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 6 and 9-12 have been canceled by this amendment.

Applicants note that a minor editorial amendments have been made to the specification for grammatical and general readability purposes. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. As noted above claims, 10-12 have been canceled by this amendment.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Vigneaux et al. (US 5,852,435); claims 2, 5, 8 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vigneaux in view of Basso et al. (US 6,292,805), and further in view of Wilkinson et al. (“Tool and Technique for Globally Unique Content Identification”); and claims 3, 6, 9 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vigneaux in view of Basso and Wilkinson, and further in view of Chatani et al. (US 7,113,693).

Claim 1, as amended recites the features of a recording unit operable to record at least the first data generated by said first coding unit onto a recording medium, wherein the second data includes identification information unique to the first data, wherein the recording medium has a serial number which is unique to the recording medium, and wherein the recording unit is operable to store the serial number into the second data corresponding to the first data.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach or suggest the above-noted combination of features recited in amended claim 1.

For example, regarding Vigneaux (US 5,852,435), Applicants note that this reference is directed to a system which utilizes a dual digitalization process so as to create a high resolution version (which the Examiner has indicated corresponds to the claimed “first data”) of media data and a low resolution version (which the Examiner has indicated corresponds to the claimed “second data”) of the media data, wherein the low resolution version of the media data and the high-resolution version of the media data are assigned the same identification number (see Abstract and col. 10, lines 43-45).

Further, regarding Chatani (US 7,113,693), Applicants note that this reference discloses the use of a recording medium having an ID for specifying itself (see col. 2, lines 35-36).

As noted above, claim 1 has been amended herein to recite the features of a recording unit operable to record at least the first data generated by said first coding unit onto a recording medium, wherein the second data includes identification information unique to the first data, wherein the recording medium has a serial number which is unique to the recording medium, and wherein the recording unit is operable to store the serial number into the second data corresponding to the first data.

In other words, Applicants note that according to amended claim 1, the second data includes (a) identification information unique to the first data and (b) a serial number of a recording medium on which the first data is recorded.

In this regard, taking the foregoing descriptions of Vigneaux and Chatani into account, Applicants respectfully submit that even if Vigneaux and Chatani were combined, that such a combination would not result in the low-resolution version of the data of Vigneaux including (a) identification information unique to the high-resolution version of the data and (b) a serial number of a recording medium on which the high-resolution version of the data is recorded.

Instead, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Vigneaux and Chatani would merely result in a system having the same identification number assigned to the low-resolution version of the data and the high-resolution version of the data, and an ID assigned to a recording medium on which the high-resolution data is recorded.

As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Vigneaux and Chatani would not render obvious the above-noted features recited in amended claim 1 of a recording unit operable to record at least the first data generated by said first coding unit onto a recording medium, wherein the second data includes identification information unique to the first data, wherein the recording medium has a serial number which is unique to the recording medium, and wherein the recording unit is operable to store the serial number into the second data corresponding to the first data.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Basso and Wilkinson would not cure the above-noted deficiencies of Vigneaux and Chatani.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art references, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1 and are therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Regarding claim 4, Applicants note that this claim has been amended to recite the features of a search unit operable to search for the first data corresponding to the second data by using identification information unique to the file of the first data, when the first data corresponding to the file of the second data is searched, the identification information being included in the second data, wherein a recording medium in which the first data is stored has a serial number unique to the recording medium, and wherein said search unit is further operable to (i) identify the recording medium using the serial number and (ii) search for the first data

corresponding to the second data in the identified recording medium using the identification information, when the first data corresponding to the file of the second data is searched.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted combination of features recited in amended claim 4. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 4 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claim 5 depends from claim 4 and is therefore considered patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

Regarding claim 7, Applicants note that this claim has been amended to recite the features of a search unit operable to search for the first data corresponding to the second data by using identification information unique to the file of the first data, when the first data corresponding to the file of the second data is searched, the identification information being included in the second data, wherein the recording medium has a serial number which is unique to the recording medium, wherein said recording unit is operable to store the serial number into the second data corresponding to the first data, and wherein said search unit is further operable to (i) identify the recording medium using the serial number and (ii) search for the first data corresponding to the second data in the identified recording medium using the identification information, when the first data corresponding to the file of the second data is searched.

For at least similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited prior art references do not teach, suggest or otherwise render obvious the above-noted combination of features recited in amended claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 7 is patentable over the cited prior art, an indication of which is kindly requested. Claim 8 depends from claim 7 and is therefore considered patentable at least

by virtue of its dependency.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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